

NEWSLETTER OF THE TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

Annual Subscriptions \$5.00 Single copies 50¢ Non Members \$1.00

President: Trevor Wailes, 47 Waterworks Rd., Dynnyrne, 7005
Ph. 34 4862

Secretary: Andrew Briggs, 1/4 Vantona Rd., Sandy Bay, 7005
Ph. 25 1808

Treasurer: Diana Davies, 391A Nelson Rd., Mt. Nelson, 7009
Ph.

Editors: Trevor Wailes (as above) - Chris Davies, 8 Weston
Pl., Montrose Ph. 72 3617 AND
Stuart Nicholas, 7 Rupert Av., New Town

Typist: Jeanine Davies, 1/4 Vantona Rd., Sandy Bay, 7005
Ph. 25 1801

FORWARD PROGRAMME

Wed. Aug. 11 PUB MEETING: Nicks welcome home from P.N.G.
and debriefing (verbally)

Sat. Aug. 14 TRACK CLEARING - surface search of Growling
Swallet area.

Wed. Aug. 18 COMMITTEE MEETING: 7 Rupert Avenue. All office
bearers please attend.

Sat. Aug. 20 to 22 MOLE CREEK WEEKEND. Caving - walking weekend.
See Albert Goede, Rick Tunney.

Wed. Aug. 25 PUB MEETING: Wheatsheaf Hotel

Sat. Aug. 28 The Tunney - McKinnon House Warming 11 Conneware
Crescent. Maybe a short cave trip for our more
recent members.

Wed. Sep. 1 SOCIAL MEETING: Stuarts place please bring some
slides along and a bottle for Stuart.

Sat. Sep. 4 K.D. Usual route - Serpentine Exchange 6
S.R.Tracers (at least) wanted for this first time
ever trip.

Sat. Sep. 11 VOLTERA. Another attempt to get there and look at
the cave and surrounding area.

EDITORIAL

Many apologies for the delay of SS 177. We hope it was worth the wait but Murphy's Law struck and struck and struck. It has been a quiet month (2months) since the last "Spiel" with little caving being done but surface work and track clearing has continued and this is important. Slaughterhouse Pot has seen a lot of activity but is slow to yield its secrets - without effort it never will. Nick Hume is back from P.N.G. with stories of epic cave trips, leeches and native bush-men. More of that later. Members are trickling into our club and swelling the ranks - all we have to do now is get them caving!

The T.C.C. Annual Dinner comes around yet again and I hope to publish in this news letter the menu and evening format. The venue is "The Bay Inn" and the date will be Friday September 24. Incidentally the "Dinner" commemorates the birth of the T.C.C. back in 1946.

Please make a note of the date and as you do, ring me, Trevor Wailes on 34 4862 and give your name and how many of you will be there. This is basically our only social function of the year so lets make it significant with a good turnout of old, and prospective new, members.

Trevor Wailes
Co-Editor

CLUB NEWS AND TRIVIA

- * The last G.M. was relatively well attended and business conducted included the annual club dinner, trip leaders, new members and inavailability of manpower to make money out of the H.E.C. in the way of making some electron ladder for them.
- * Albert Goede is trying to arrange some trip leaders and others to help the N.C.C. run an interesting through trip between Marracoopa and ? This will take place on the weekend of August 20-21-22. The number to ring for further information is A.G. on 399265 (H) or 20 2461 (W) Rick Tunney and Janine McKinnon will be there and hope to do some bush walking on one of the other days - ring 49 3222.
- * Geoff Fisher has been emulating some famous people like Smeaton, Rennie and Thomas Telford in his epic bridge building exercise on the Track (Growling Swallet Highway). His bridge near Gormanghast spans twenty feet over the raging trickle of water flowing into Gormanghast and is taken from a primitive Nepalese design, it is not to be scoffed at as hopefully it is the first of many and a whole new field in which the T.C.C. can become experts in and give advice to its competitors like Maunsell & Partners!
- * Stuart has purchased a new chainsaw with a 3 metre (well, 80cm) bar and he too has been productive on the same track with the removal of the larger of stacks but there is still much to be done. Anyone willing to be involved in this venture would be appreciated as track clearing has its own rewards (usually blisters and a boot full of saw chips).

The Trip leaders list has not been published for a long time so here is a revised list with the recent inclusion of Rick Tunney and Janine McKinnon who were voted in at the last G.M. Congratulations to both and lets hope it produces more caving activity.

Andrew Briggs	Nick Hume
Chris Davies	Max Jeffries
Diana Davies	Mike Martyn
Rolan Eberhard	Janine McKinnon
Stefan Eberhard	Stuart Nicholas
Geoff Fisher	Rick Tunney
Albert Goede	Trevor Wailes
Peter Shaw	

Recent New members to cough up and still to cough up are:

Andrew Cooper	"The apprentice" until we work the Venture
Address?	Scout out of him and teach him to drink
	10 ounce beers without a break.

Mike Edwards	Another pom I'm glad to say. He's been
1/350 Davey Street	looking around a bit is originally from
	South Hampton (Speleo Rhal Caving Club)
	and well established on the White Water
	Kayak circuit in New Zealand and other
	places abroad.

Welcome to the T.C.C. - if you have any gripes or ideas we want to know them too!

WANTED TO BUY

PITONS

PITONS

PITONS

KNIFE BLADES, BUGABOOS, RURPS, LOST ARROWS, LEEPERS, CRACKTACKS, MICRO PEG OR ICE HAMMER.

ALSO

SKYHOOKS, BAT HOOKS, CRACK'N'UPS, COPPERHEADS, WIRED MICRO NUTS, BOLT BRACKETS (For 3/8 and 5/16 Bolts), GLOBIES, SMASHIES, BASHIES, 1/4 INCH DRILLS.

EVEN IF YOU HAVE ONLY ONE OR TWO OF THESE ITEMS, PLEASE PHONE PHIL STEAN ON 28 1075.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE RECOGNISED AS AN OWNER OF THIS UNETHICAL GEAR, A SECRET DROP-OFF CAN BE ARRANGED.

"NEWS" PAPERS - FACT OR FICTION?

It seems that journalists have had a great deal of trouble with our press-release following the Ice Tube epic victory. Our local paper "The Mercury" managed to ruin an otherwise well written article which originally contained facts, drama and excitement.

In their excitement the "Sydney Morning Herald" had us down as breaking the world record (currently 1432m)!

Western Australia, being a rather isolated and exclusive place had their local paper, "The West Australian" quote the name of our Club and our State incorrectly - what is the "Manian Caverneering Club" anyway?

Maybe in future we should provide articles in large print and containing words of only one syllable!

SLAUGHTER HOUSE POT JF X 41?

3rd July, 1982

Party: George Albion, Andrew Briggs, Diana Davies, Chris Davies
Geoff Fisher, Richard Hortle, Stuart Nicholas, Trevor Wailes

Another T.C.C. epic in which the level of stuffing around rose yet again to level III.

The last time most of us saw the inside of Slaughter House was one dark wet night in September 1980. The plan for the return trip was to exercise some evil spirits, survey to the bottom, and on into Growling Swallet through the break-through we hoped to make.

The abnormally large number of experienced cavers spent about an hour looking in the wrong place before finding the large doline which marks the entry crawl. A...maze...ing! Some of our number had been right past the doline 2 or 3 times in the past month. The confusion caused some severe attacks of apathy, and some attacks of severe apathy.

Diana and Trevor got things underway by back tracking to Pendant Pot to complete the surface survey before entering the cave. G.F. R.H. A.B. and C.D. geared up and wormed their way through the squeezes to the top of the 90' pitch. Andrew belayed the other 3 down, then waited for the survey party to catch up.

The rigging party pushed on and down the 60' pitch to the bottom of the cave.

It was here that the spirits tried to have their (final?) say. A 100kg boulder leapt at Geoff, but he leapt the other way - quite a nimble chap is Geoff. Careful exploration revealed only muddy boulder chokes, a dry sandy sump, and a tiny stream. No high level development was apparent in the chamber.

As time was short the survey was not completed, and we all headed back up. On the return to the surface Trev. noticed a deep shaft opening some way down the 90' pitch. Time did not permit inspection. Slaughter House is not dead yet!

The numbers of the party who did not feel like getting deeply involved looked about on the surface, and found one small hole, and also lots of small wood for George's trailer.

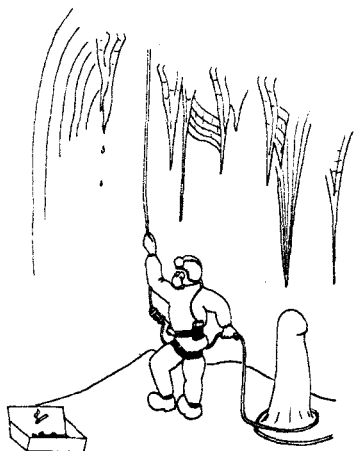
Chris Davies.

OWL POT 5th June, 1982

Present: Chris Davies, Jeanine Davies, Andrew Cooper and Janine McKinnon.

As all the Super-Leagues were heading off to finally finish Ice Tube, we decided to have a leisurely trip down Owl Pot. Having been laid low with the dreaded gut lurgey all week I thought this would be a quiet way to spend a Saturday.

We got away from ye olde breakfast take-away about 10am and undertook the long, soul destroying walk from the cars to the Pot by 11am, arriving at 11.05am.



After a bit of debate we decided to rig a handline down the entrance slope. This was greatly appreciated on the way out.

The 30m first pitch was descended without event and we all then spent some time negotiating the inevitable rock pile. The 40m second handline pitch was rigged using ladders which most of us used as a handline. We only went as far as the top of the waterfall pitch as we had to be out by the punctual hour (5pm). Andrew had no prusiking experience and we thought one dry 30m pitch was plenty to keep him occupied for the trip.

The entrance slide was surmounted with a lot of amusement and we were safely

out by just after 4.30 pm.

Janine McKinnon.

OFFICIAL NAMING OF CAVES IN THE GORDON-FRANKLIN RIVERS AREA

In recent years a number of caves in this area have been unofficially named after State and Federal politicians in order to attract attention to the fight to preserve South-Western Tasmania in its natural state.

Since such names are not acceptable as official names the ~~Nomenclature~~ Board of Tasmania has for some time been considering the problem of

assigning alternative names. In view of the archaeological significance of some of the caves it was felt that aboriginal names would be most appropriate and advice was sought from the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre and N.J.B. Plounley, an expert in Aboriginal names.

A decision has now been made and an "Intention to Assign Place Names" was published as List No. 276 in the Tasmanian Government gazette of Wednesday, 16 June, 1982, page 1914. The following names are listed.

Kutikina Cave (not Fraser Cave) - the word Kutikina is used at the present time by the aboriginal community in Tasmania and means "Spirit".

Clinnelare Cave (not Whitlam Cave) - the word 'Clinnelare' means 'waterfall'. An appropriate name for a cave that has three waterfalls in it.

Payaleena Cave (not Hayden Cave) - the word 'Payaleena' means 'glow worm'. Glow worms are present in this cave.

Pengana Cave (not Bingham Cave) - the word 'Pengana' means 'slit' or 'earth' and refers to the slit banks formed in this cave.

Proina Cave (not Lowe Cave) - 'Proina' means 'large' and refers to the fact that this is the largest cave formed in the area.

Rotuli Cave (not Neilson Cave) - 'Rotuli' means 'long' as it is the longest cave known in the region with over half a kilometre of passage.

Apart from the first name in the list the other five names are taken from Plounley's "A word list of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Languages".

A. Goede

MOLE CREEK June Long Weekend

Party: Andrew Briggs and Jeanine Davies, Peter Hutchinson and Liz Jones.

This was a purely photographic trip and a gentle introduction to caving for Liz Jones. After a horrible drive up on Friday afternoon we all assembled at the Mole Creek Chalet for a sleep shared with rats and numerous cow pats.

Croesus was the order of the day for Saturday so away we went. But first to get the key from the Ranger at King Solomon Cave. He kindly informed me that a stainless steel gate is to be fixed on Croesus so prospective cavers will "have to" get permission to enter.

A delightful 4 hours was spent shooting the cave before we all retired for lunch on the Mersey. Lynds Cave was next on the list but due to the rapid spread of apathy Peter H. and myself were the only two interested so we just walked down and gawked at the entrance, from both inside and outside, quite nice I thought.

Pete Watts arrived on Saturday night to bolster our numbers to five, hang-gliding at Stanley having apparently fallen thru, or down. Sunday morning early saw us at the entrance to Haile Salaise Cave, near King Solomon itself. This cave apparently was once joined to King Solomons but due to an extensive rock fall a through route is no longer possible. The cave turned out

to be very boring, consisting mainly of a single chamber with rat holes heading off everywhere. After a short time in the cave we exited and drove down to the Mersey for lunch in the sun, the weather was excellent.

Having achieved very little in the morning Pete Watts and myself decided that Pyrimid Cave would be a good laugh "joke". After finally locating the entrance, thru very thick regrowth away we went. Fun, mud, water and narrowness made for a good laugh and a slide around before we emerged in time to drive back and have a wash in the Marakoopa stream.

Sunday night saw more grog consumed and the cave stories spread thicker and deeper on the floor. Pete decided that hang-gliding would be a goer for tomorrow so he was to leave early on Monday morning, while the rest of us were going to shoot through Genghis Khan Cave. A good session of photos ensued and we were all back at the chalet for a late lunch. A very leisurely drive home at 60kph saw us back in Hobart at a reasonable hour on Monday night.

Andrew Briggs

CRITICAL COMMENT

Kubla Khan has been under a lot of pressure from cavers lately and the N.P.W.S. would like to see this cave gated so a record of people entering could be maintained. What do you think? Please let me know as I would like to write a positive letter to N.P.W.S. (Or negative)

TASSY POT

June 19th

Party: Chris Davies, Jeanine Davies and Andrew Briggs.

The purpose of this trip was to examine several holes at the back of the big 220' ft pitch. These holes are shown on a rough survey drawn for the Spiel several years ago. They all had question marks below them, so they looked interesting.

We arrived at the gate about nine am after breakfast in the Maydena shop. A quick trip around to the cave saw us rigging and doing the usual mental activities prior to a caving trip. As this was my 2nd trip to the cave I was to rig and Chris to protect. As usual I rigged from the road side to make the 1st pitch a 140ft free hanger using only 1 protector. This would have to be one of my favorite entrance pitches.

Rigging off the 2nd pitch quickly followed and we continued on down. As usual care was needed at the lip of this pitch because of the pile of logs that perches there. This is another nice 90ft pitch, dry of course! A further 60ft abseil saw us down the awkward chimney and still heading down to Goodbye Chamber which is the top of the big pitch.

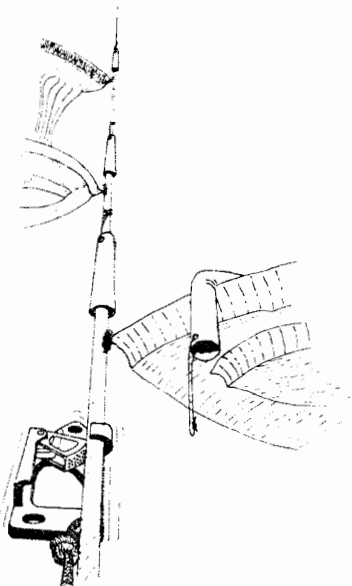
Now for the big "let-down". A quick butcher's at the unknown holes revealed shallow, small and choked holes leading no-where. The deepest of these was about 40ft, and kept going, however, its diminishing size meant that it was impossible to continue.

A leisurely exit was made and we all gathered on the surface at about 3.00pm after the normal scare tactics by Jeanine, who tried to put Chris and myself off caving by throwing "large logs" down the 90ft pitch. It was an excellent trip and a good warm up for more active caving in the future.

Andrew Briggs

SLAUGHTER HOUSE POT (More Disappointment!)

Slaughter House Pot has been the focus of attention for a while now with the possibility of a break through into Growling Swallet. As already mentioned, the large terminating chamber was a let



down although very promising on first inspection. The shaft mentioned in the previous trip report was eventually descended by Chris Davies, Andrew Briggs and our newly appointed apprentice Andrew Cooper. Only Andrew Cooper descended the continuing constricted rift into what he saw as a large passage.

The following trip saw the same party plus Trevor Wailes, looking for the big break through by following the "Large Passage" on a simple walk through into Growling Swallet. However, after following Andrew Cooper down the rift with help from a hand line and viewing the "Passage" myself I considered it wise to wait for Chris to see what he had to say as he was the only one of us to see the already explored large terminal chamber.

Unfortunately my suspicions were proven and with great dismay Chris confirmed Andrews "Large Passage" was in fact the terminal chamber.

However, this huge chamber did have a small stream which is suspected comes from the adjacent Pendant Pot, and sinks between large boulders and gravel. This is obviously not the original sink as broken sections of stream passage occur beyond the limit of the water sink. Also at the furthest, which is also the lowest point in the system, a possible continuation is visible between more large size open talus. (A certain amount of selfconfidence and strong will would be useful) The remainder of this terminal chamber may be worth scrutinising as the entry point of the trickle of water was not fully ascertained. If this trickle is proven to be from Pendant Pot and by water tracing, key it in with not only Slaughter House but a suspected rising in Growling itself, then our knowledge of this area surface drainage would be greatly enhanced and prove both the Growling and the surface surveys have a high degree of accuracy.

I still feel there is a positive link possible but in the three trips stated in this newsletter it hasn't been found, patience is running out and the concrete slurry is running in. (through one of the many entrance series crawls) Maybe it needs rethinking and a little more effort.



1st Party: C. Davies, A. Briggs and A. Cooper.

2nd Party: C. Davies, A. Briggs, A. Cooper and T. Wailes.

Trevor Wailes

TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB
ANNUAL DINNER 1982

To be held on Friday, September 24th, 1982

At Monroes Restaurant, The Bay Inn, Lower Sandy Bay. (Near the
Bus Terminus.)

The evening to start with predinner drinks at 7.30pm and the
dinner will be at 8.30pm prompt.

Cost \$12.50 per head, drinks extra.

MENU

ENTREE

Beef Stockpot Or Crumbed Scallops

MAIN COURSE

Roast Turkey & Ham **OR** Roast Pork & Apple Sauce

OR

Roast Beef New York Cut

Fresh Vegetables

SWEETS

Pavlova Or Apple Strudle

COFFEE AND MINTS

Carafes of Wine \$3.50 Jugs of Beer \$3.80

PRICES INCREASE AFTER 12.00 MIDNIGHT

Please inform Trev. Wailes, 34 4862 if you wish to attend this
Culinary Extravaganza!!!